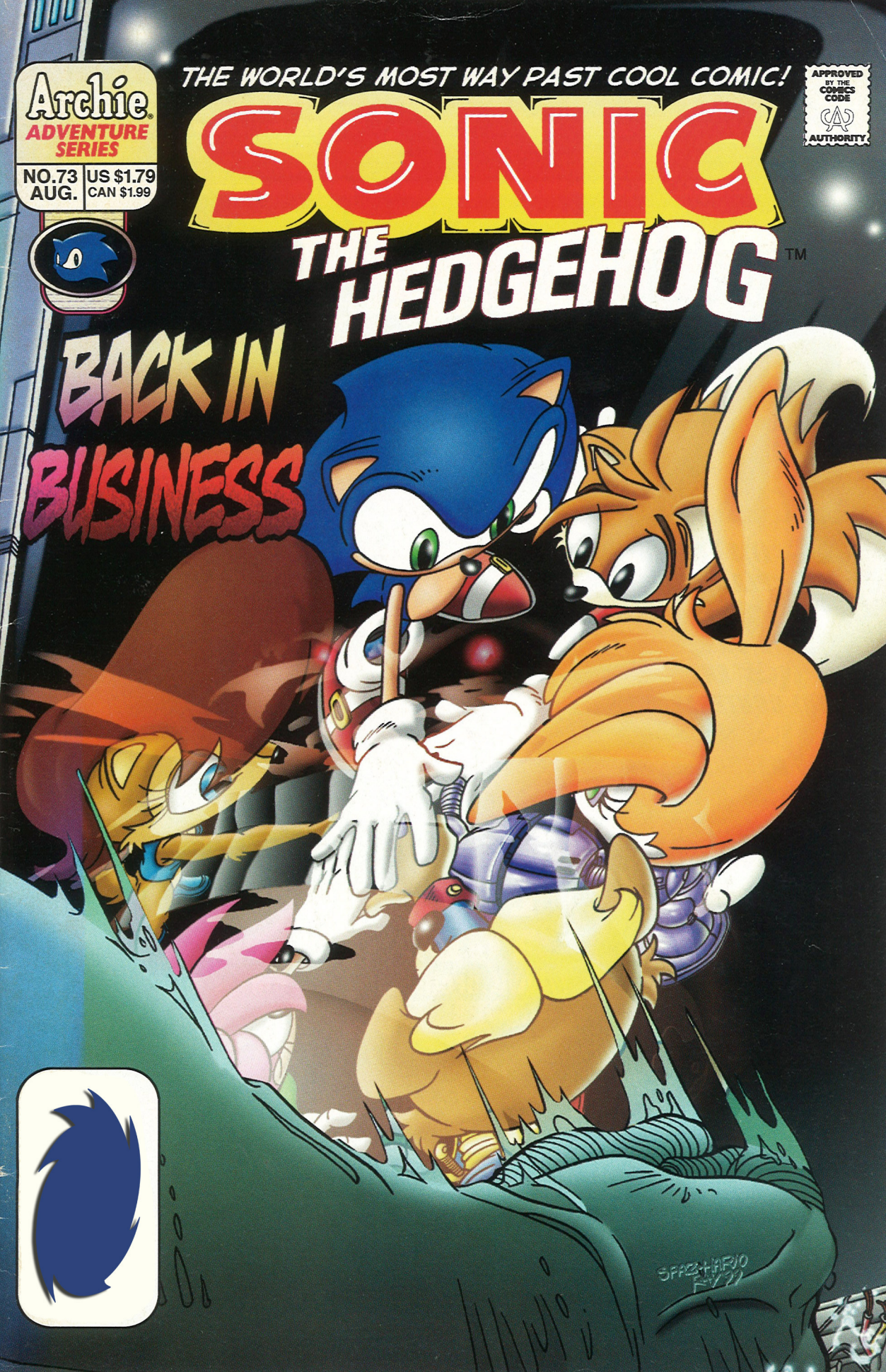
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THE PLANET MOBIUS WAS ONCE A VIRTUAL PARADISE UNTIL IT WAS CONQUERED BY THE EVIL DOCTOR ROBOTNIK! HIS TECHNOLOGICAL TYRANNY WOULD HAVE CONTINUED IF NOT FOR A HEROIC GROUP OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS WHO BANDED TOGETHER AND RESTORED ORDER TO THE KINGDOM OF ACORN! THE BRAVEST AMONG THEM IS A BLUE STREAK FILLED WITH THE MOST ATTITUDE GOING AROUND - - AND, WITHOUT A DOUBT, HE IS THE FASTEST THING ALIVE!
ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!
MORNING IN KNOTHOLE VILLAGE...
WELL, MOM 'N DAD, DO YOU LIKE 'EM?
"LIKE 'EM?" "LIKE 'EM?"
SONIC--THESE WEDDING BANDS ARE ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL!
THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE

KARL BOLLERS	STEVEN BUTLER	PAM EKLUND	FRANK GAGLIARDO	JEFF POWELL	J.F. GABRIE	VICTOR GORELICK	RICHARD GOLDWATER
WRITER	PENCILER	INKER	COLORIST	LETTERER	EDITOR\ ART DIRECTOR	MNG. EDITOR	EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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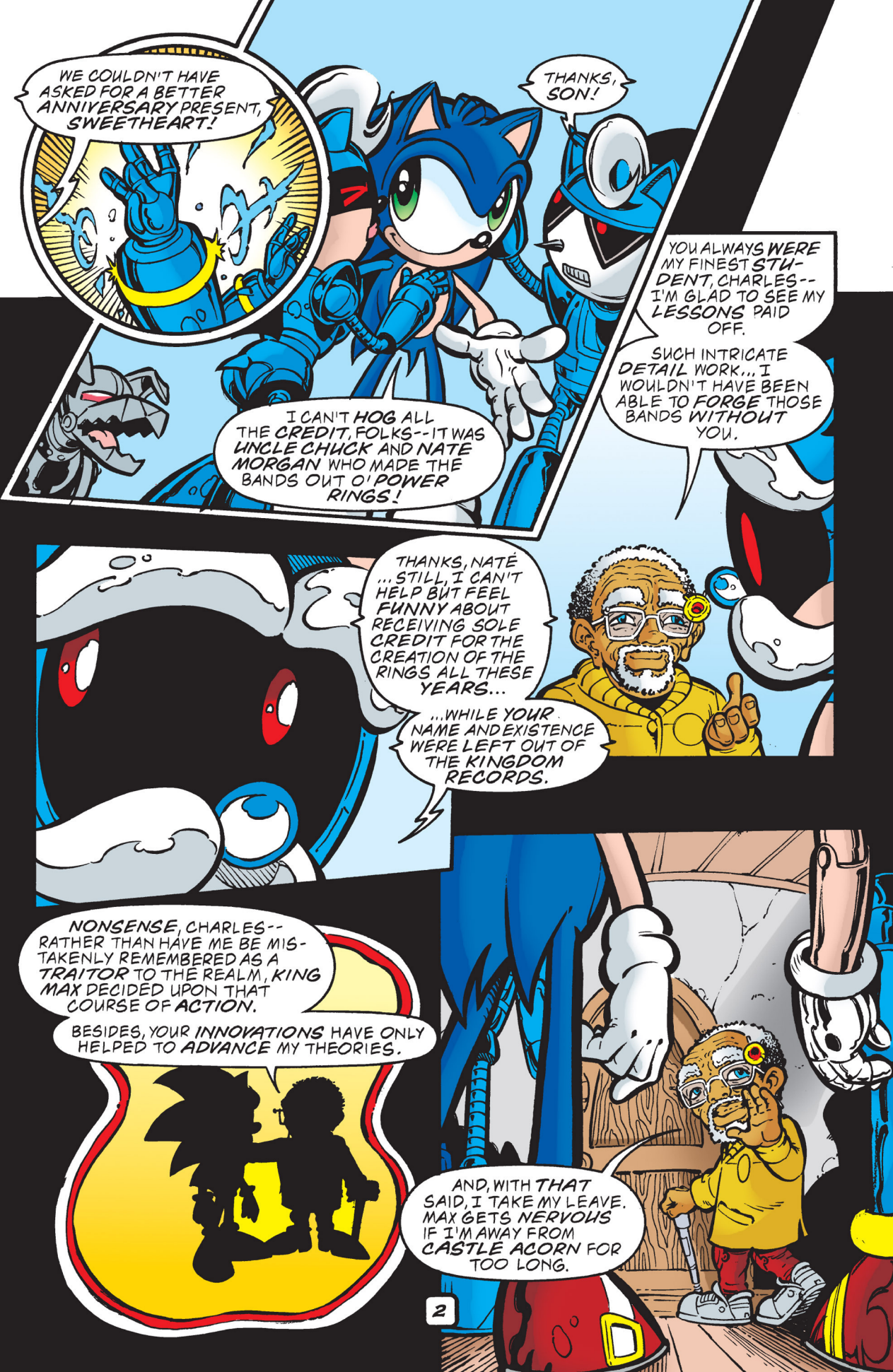
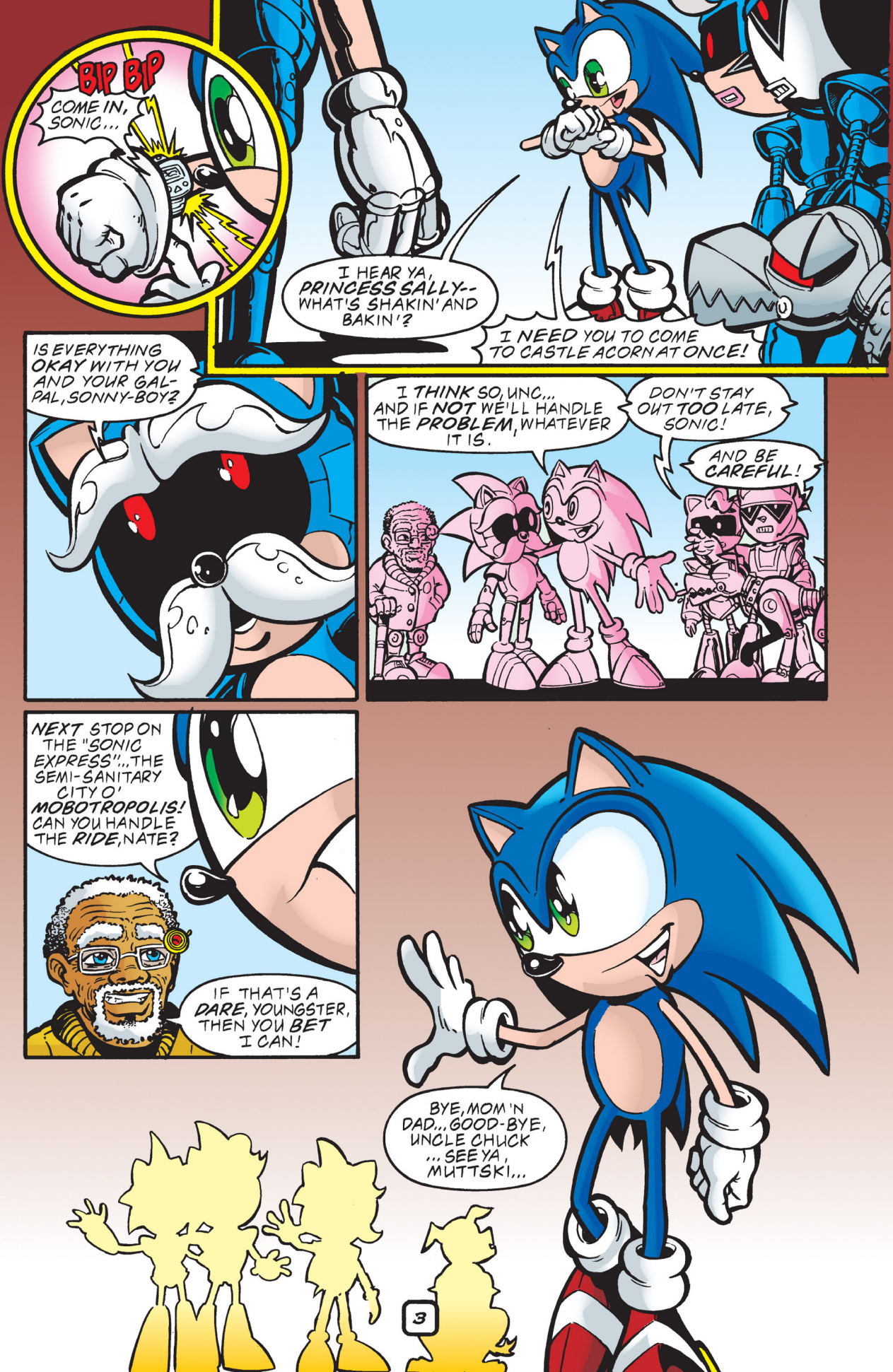
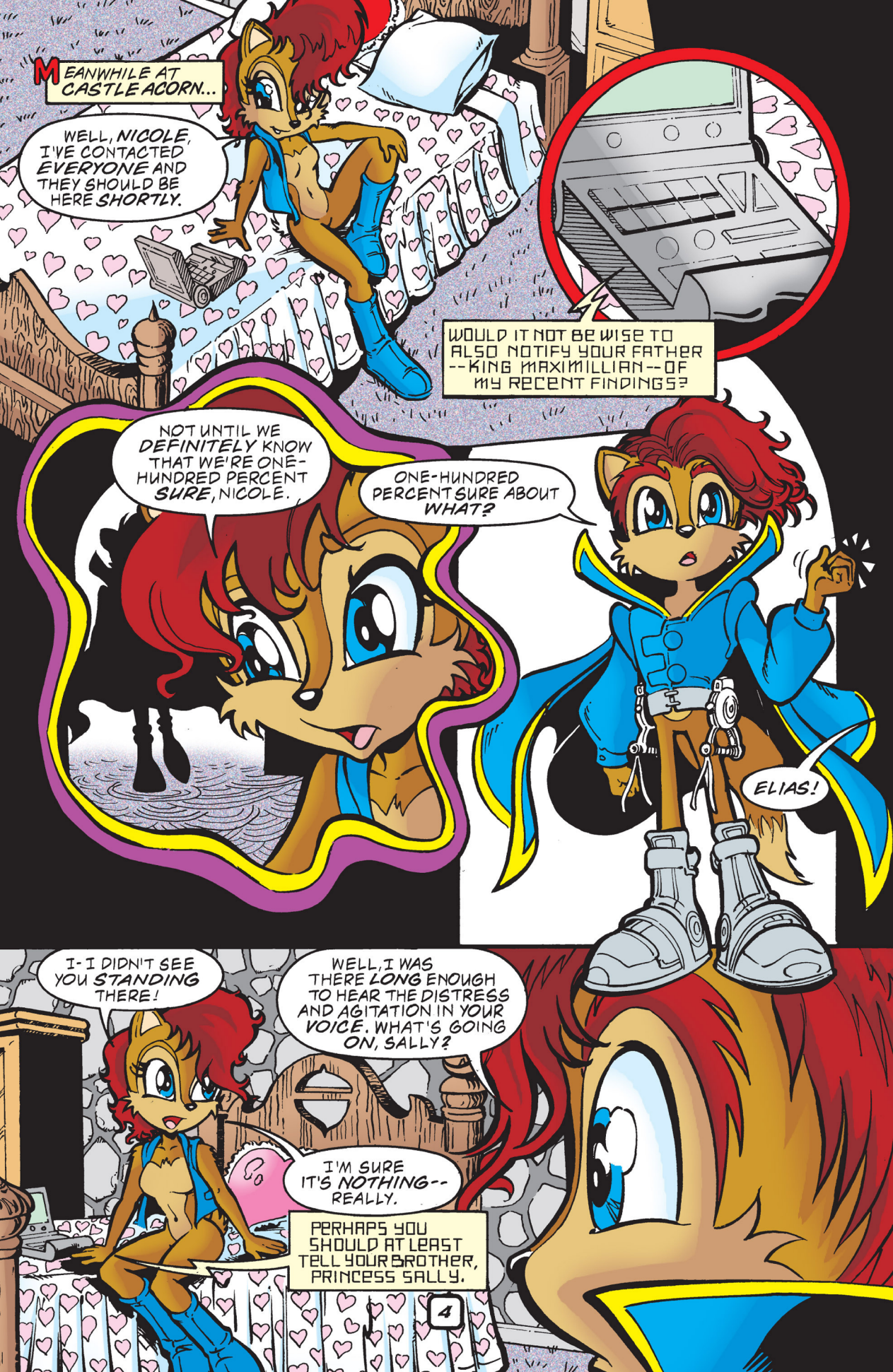
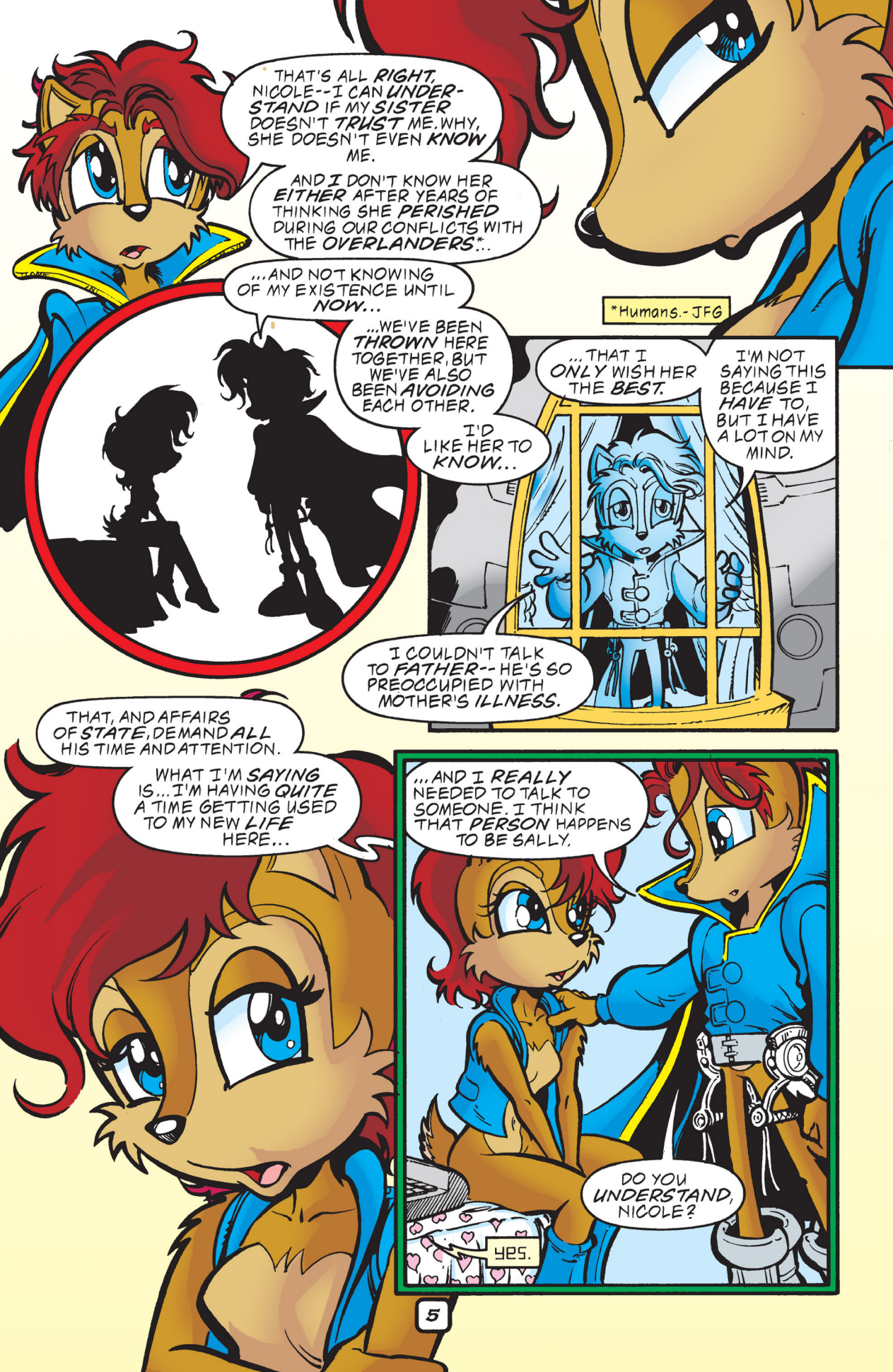
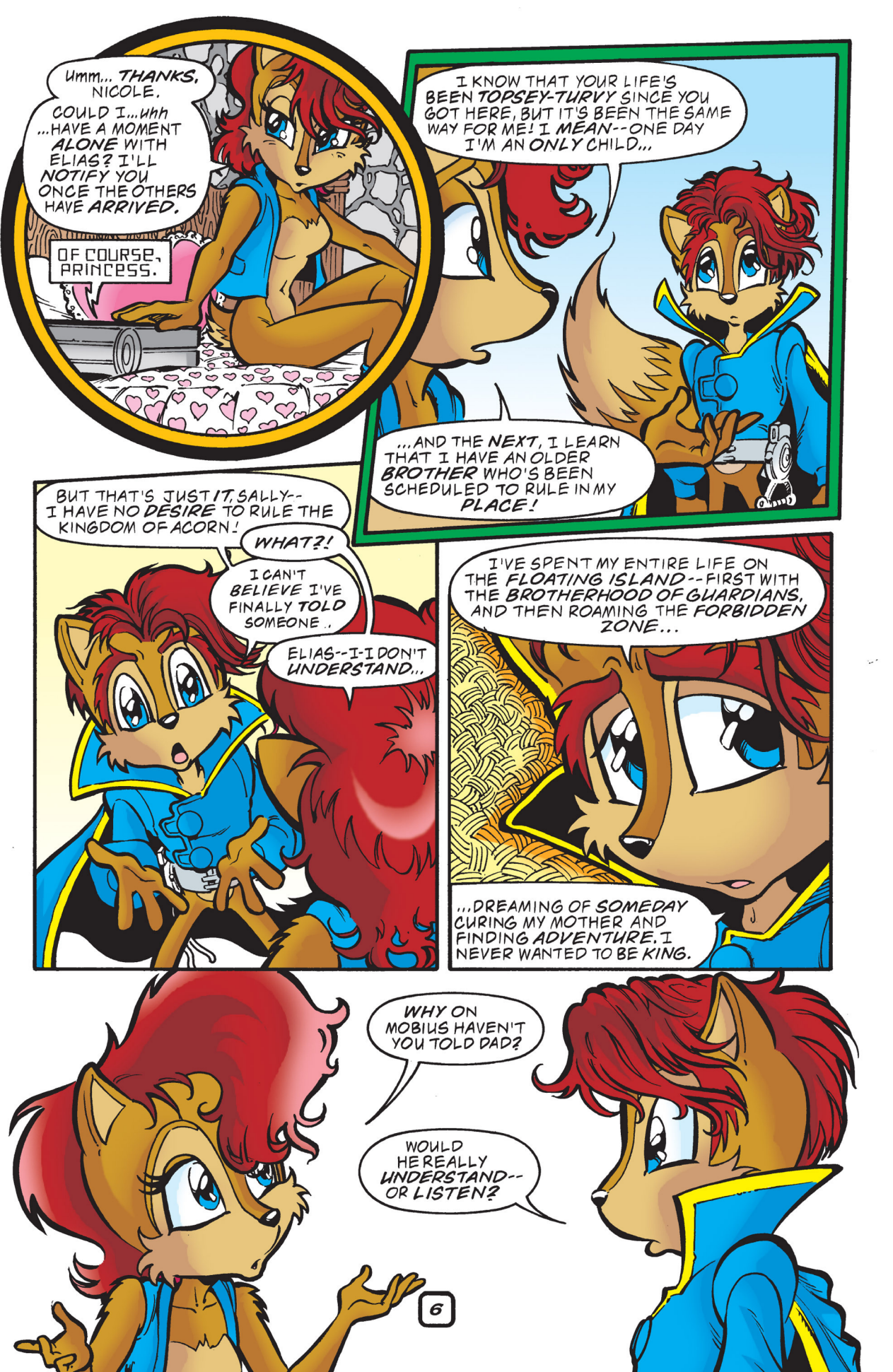
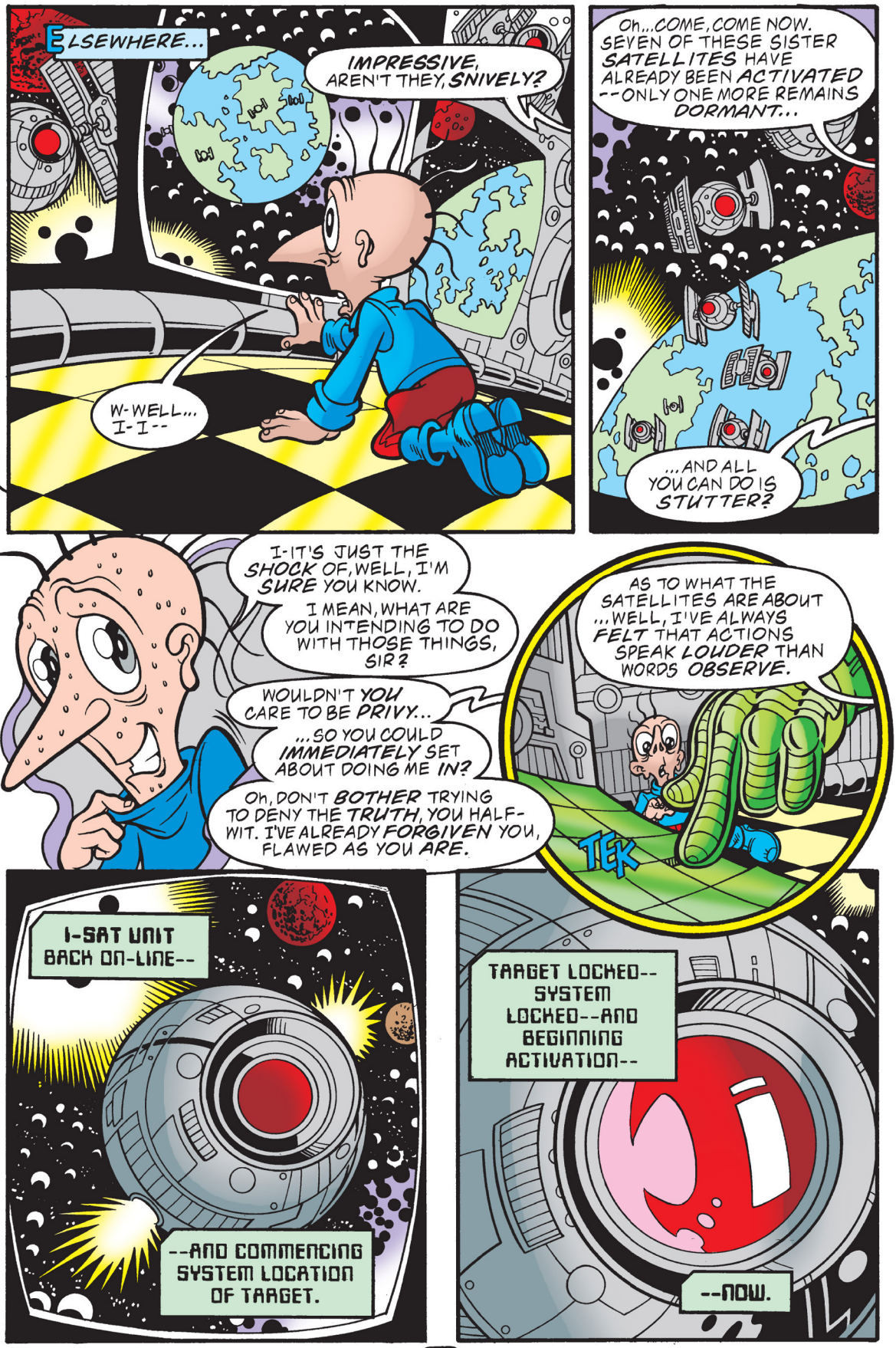

WE COULDN'T HAVE ASKED FOR A BETTER ANNIVERSARY PRESENT, SWEETHEART!
THANKS, SON!
I CAN'T HOG ALL THE CREDIT, FOLKS--IT WAS UNCLE CHUCK AND NATE MORGAN WHO MADE THE BANDS OUT O' POWER RINGS!
YOU ALWAYS WERE MY FINEST STUDENT, CHARLES--I'M GLAD TO SEE MY LESSONS PAID OFF.
SUCH INTRICATE DETAIL WORK... I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO FORGE THOSE BANDS WITHOUT YOU.
THANKS, NATE ... STILL, I CAN'T HELP BUT FEEL FUNNY ABOUT RECEIVING SOLE CREDIT FOR THE CREATION OF THE RINGS ALL THESE YEARS...
...WHILE YOUR NAME AND EXISTENCE WERE LEFT OUT OF THE KINGDOM RECORDS.
NONSENSE, CHARLES--RATHER THAN HAVE ME BE MISTAKENLY REMEMBERED AS A TRAITOR TO THE REALM, KING MAX DECIDED UPON THAT COURSE OF ACTION.
BESIDES, YOUR INNOVATIONS HAVE ONLY HELPED TO ADVANCE MY THEORIES.
AND, WITH THAT SAID, I TAKE MY LEAVE. MAX GETS NERVOUS IF I'M AWAY FROM CASTLE ACORN FOR TOO LONG.

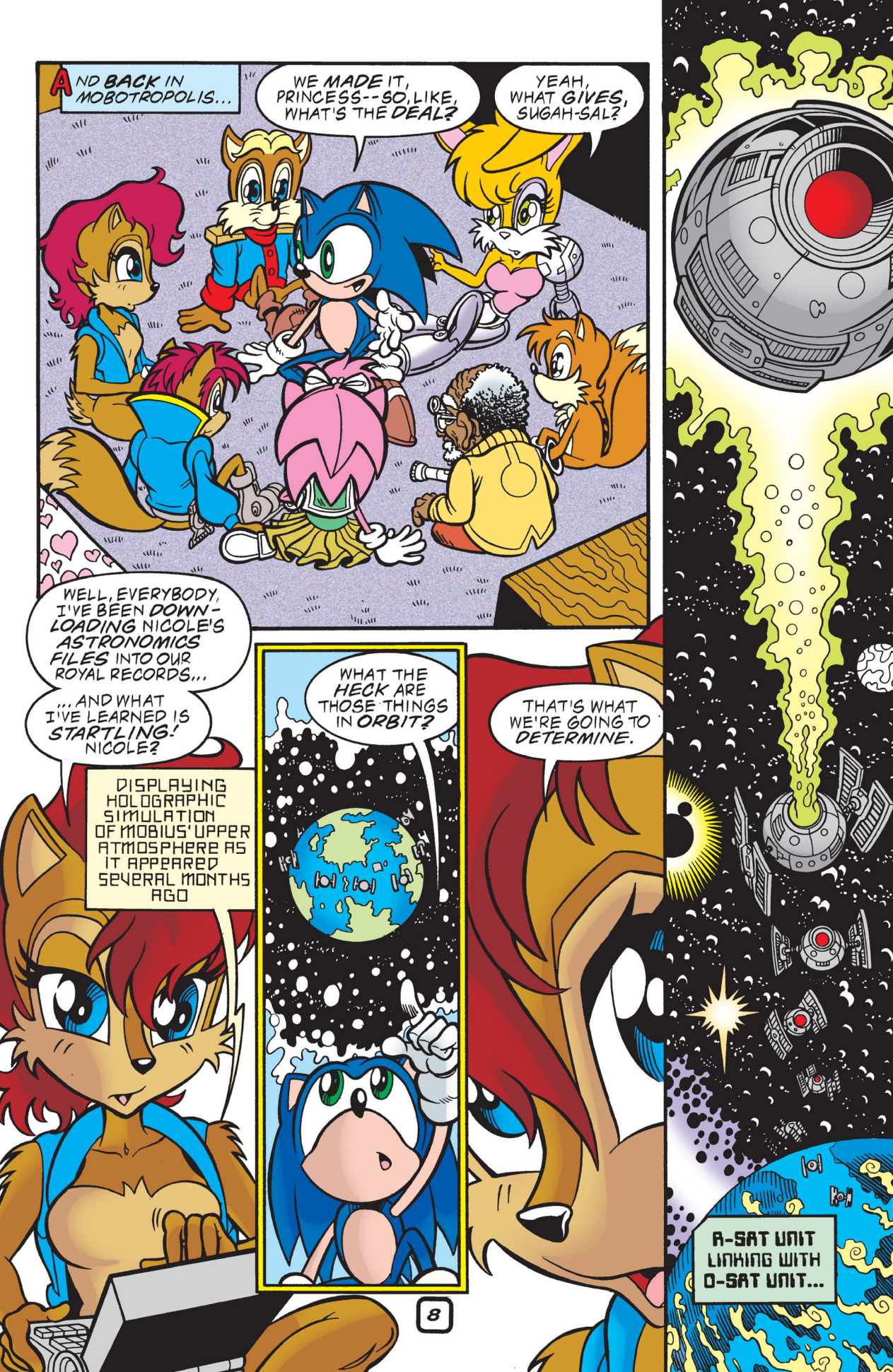

BIP BIP
COME IN, SONIC...
I HEAR YA, PRINCESS SALLY-- WHAT'S SHAKIN' AND BAKIN'?
I NEED YOU TO COME TO CASTLE ACORN AT ONCE!
IS EVERYTHING OKAY WITH YOU AND YOUR GAL-PAL, SONNY-BOY?
I THINK SO, UNC... AND IF NOT WE'LL HANDLE THE PROBLEM, WHATEVER IT IS.
DON'T STAY OUT TOO LATE, SONIC!
AND BE CAREFUL!
NEXT STOP ON THE "SONIC EXPRESS"... THE SEMI-SANITARY CITY O' MOBOTROPOLIS! CAN YOU HANDLE THE RIDE, NATE?
IF THAT'S A DARE, YOUNGSTER, THEN YOU BET I CAN!
BYE, MOM 'N DAD... GOOD-BYE, UNCLE CHUCK ... SEE YA, MUTTSKI...
3

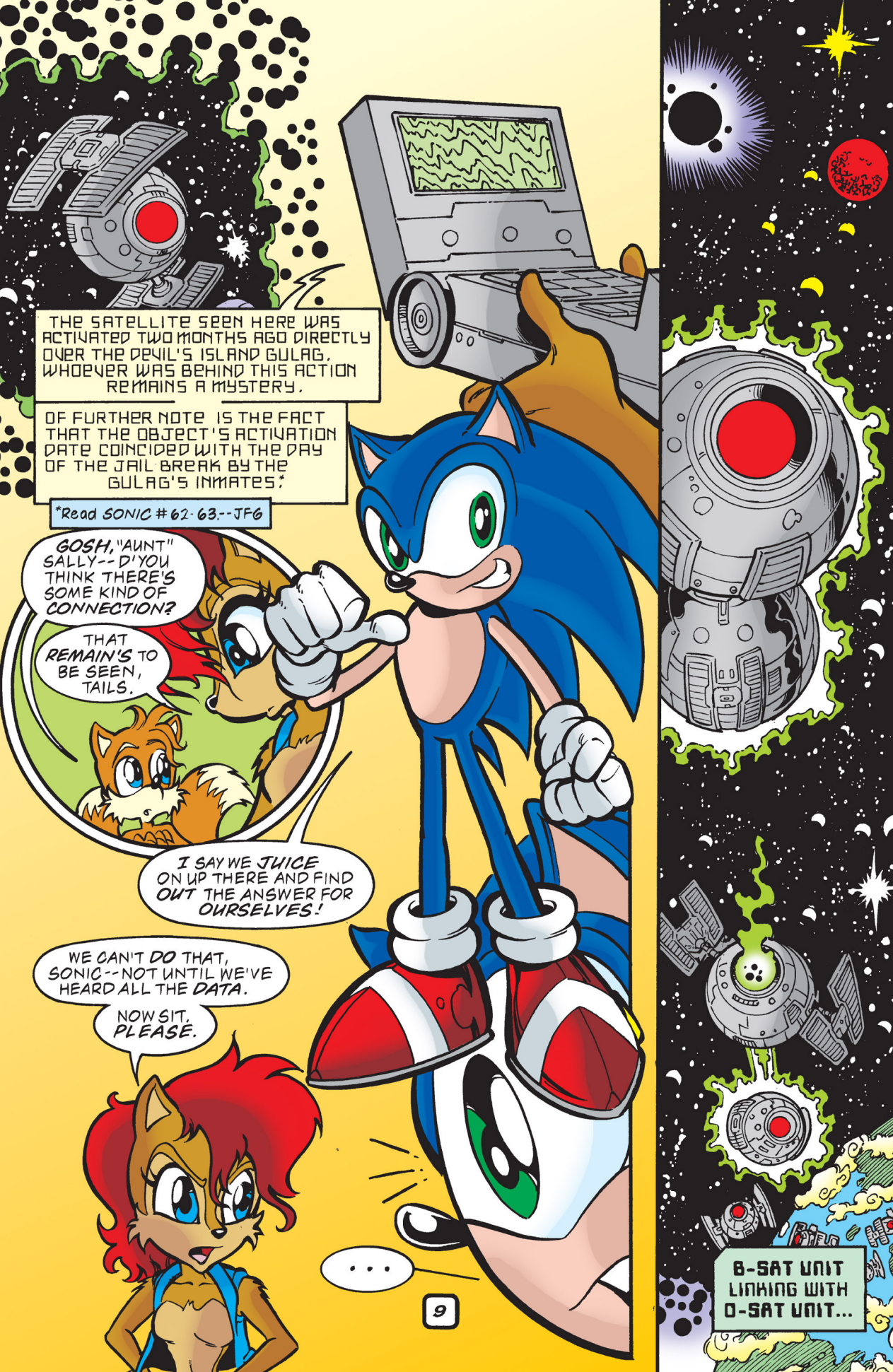

MEANWHILE AT CASTLE ACORN...
WELL, NICOLE, I'VE CONTACTED EVERYONE AND THEY SHOULD BE HERE SHORTLY.
WOULD IT NOT BE WISE TO ALSO NOTIFY YOUR FATHER --KING MAXIMILLIAN-- OF MY RECENT FINDINGS?
NOT UNTIL WE DEFINITELY KNOW THAT WE'RE ONE-HUNDRED PERCENT SURE, NICOLE.
ONE-HUNDRED PERCENT SURE ABOUT WHAT?
ELIAS!
I-I DIDN'T SEE YOU STANDING THERE!
WELL, I WAS THERE LONG ENOUGH TO HEAR THE DISTRESS AND AGITATION IN YOUR VOICE. WHAT'S GOING ON, SALLY?
I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING-- REALLY.
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD AT LEAST TELL YOUR BROTHER, PRINCESS SALLY.
4

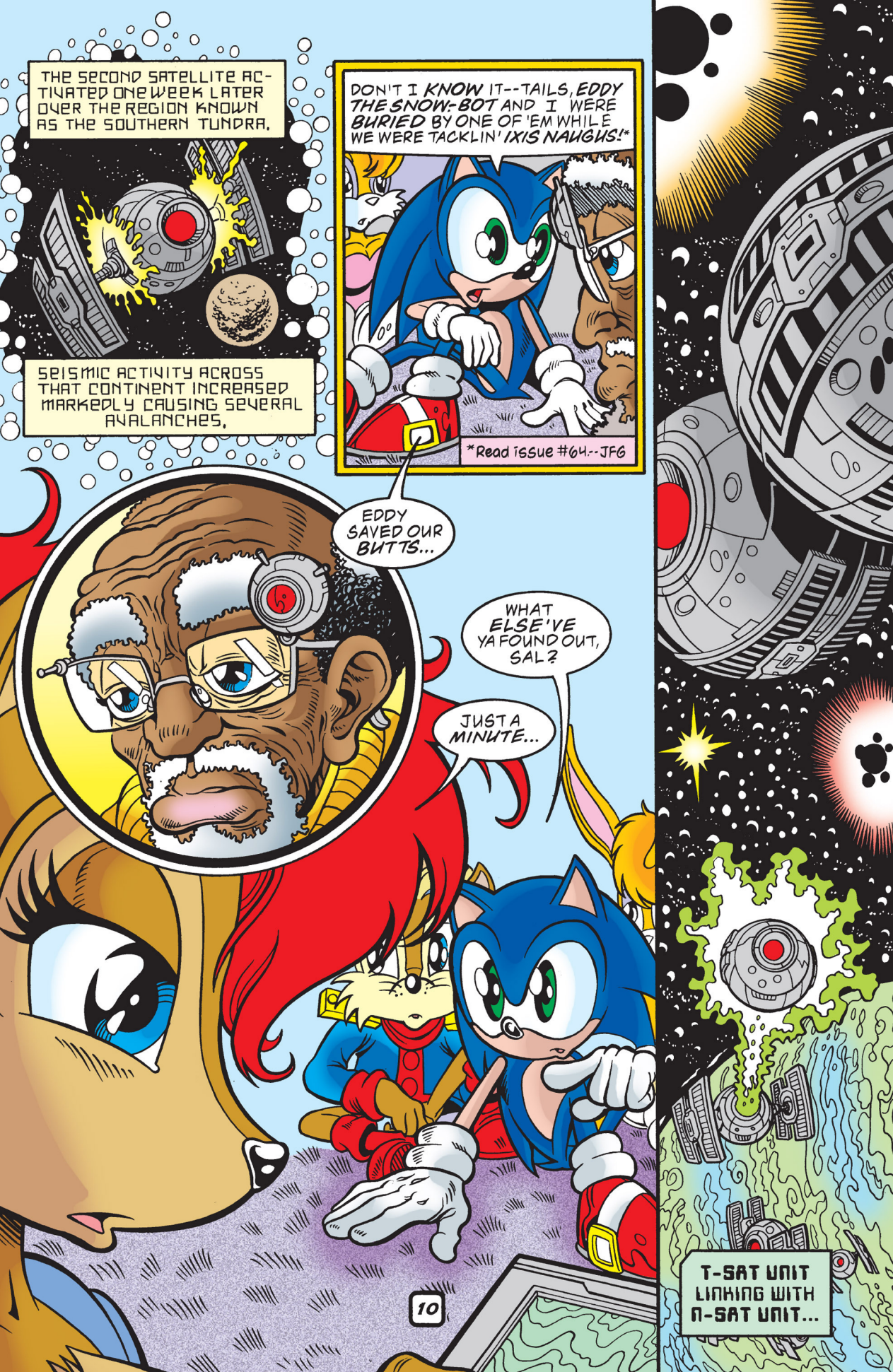

THAT'S ALL RIGHT, NICOLE--I CAN UNDERSTAND IF MY SISTER DOESN'T TRUST ME. WHY, SHE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW ME.
AND I DON'T KNOW HER EITHER AFTER YEARS OF THINKING SHE PERISHED DURING OUR CONFLICTS WITH THE OVERLANDERS*...
...AND NOT KNOWING OF MY EXISTENCE UNTIL NOW...
...WE'VE BEEN THROWN HERE TOGETHER, BUT WE'VE ALSO BEEN AVOIDING EACH OTHER.
I'D LIKE HER TO KNOW...
*Humans.- JFG
...THAT I ONLY WISH HER THE BEST.
I'M NOT SAYING THIS BECAUSE I HAVE TO, BUT I HAVE A LOT ON MY MIND.
I COULDN'T TALK TO FATHER-- HE'S SO PREOCCUPIED WITH MOTHER'S ILLNESS.
THAT, AND AFFAIRS OF STATE, DEMAND ALL HIS TIME AND ATTENTION.
WHAT I'M SAYING IS... I'M HAVING QUITE A TIME GETTING USED TO MY NEW LIFE HERE...
...AND I REALLY NEEDED TO TALK TO SOMEONE. I THINK THAT PERSON HAPPENS TO BE SALLY.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND, NICOLE?
yes.

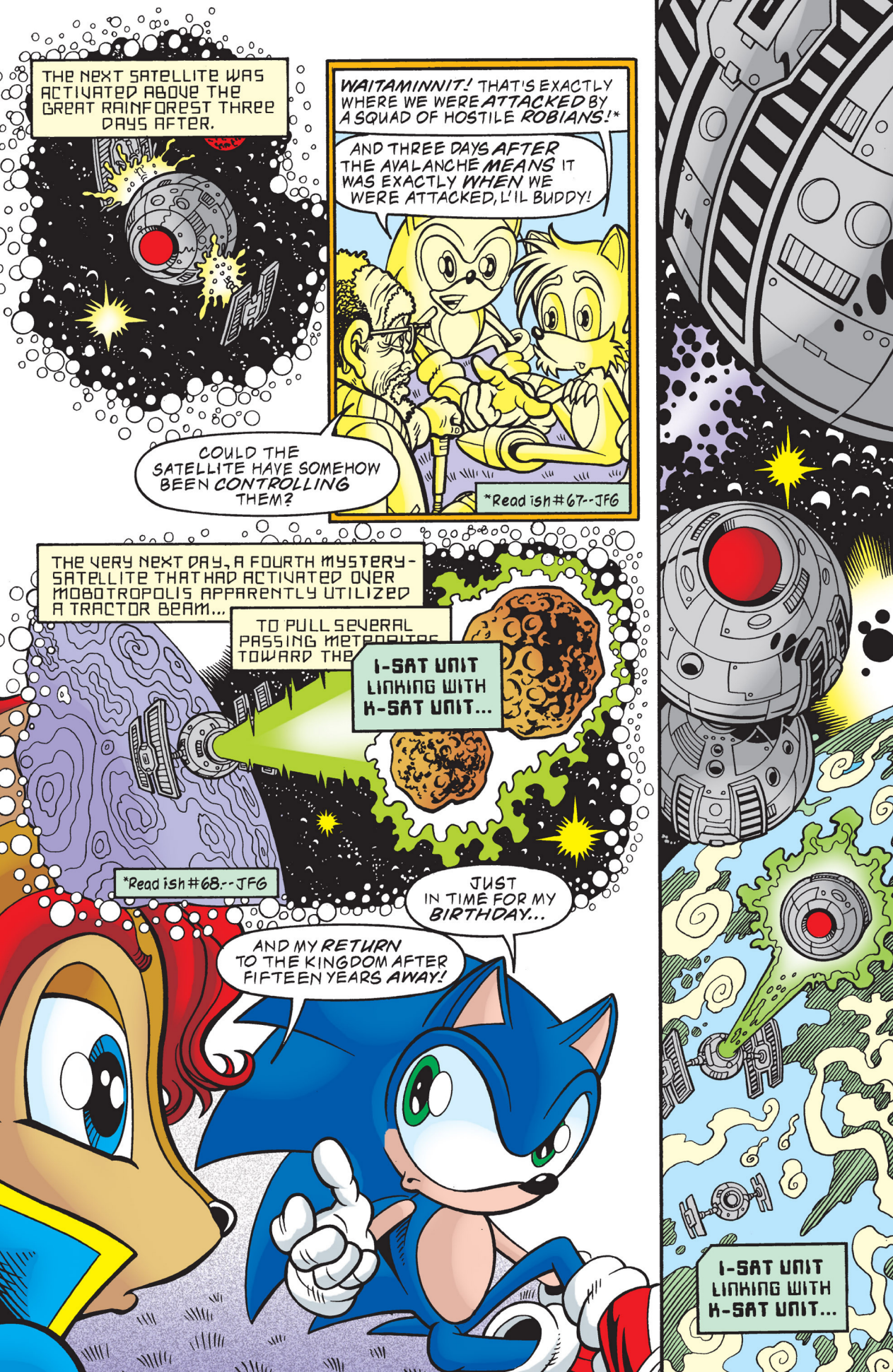

Umm... THANKS, NICOLE. COULD I...uhh ...HAVE A MOMENT ALONE WITH ELIAS? I'LL NOTIFY YOU ONCE THE OTHERS HAVE ARRIVED.
OF COURSE, PRINCESS.
I KNOW THAT YOUR LIFE'S BEEN TOPSEY-TURVY SINCE YOU GOT HERE, BUT IT'S BEEN THE SAME WAY FOR ME! I MEAN--ONE DAY I'M AN ONLY CHILD...
...AND THE NEXT, I LEARN THAT I HAVE AN OLDER BROTHER WHO'S BEEN SCHEDULED TO RULE IN MY PLACE!
BUT THAT'S JUST IT, SALLY-- I HAVE NO DESIRE TO RULE THE KINGDOM OF ACORN!
WHAT?!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'VE FINALLY TOLD SOMEONE..
ELIAS--I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND...
I'VE SPENT MY ENTIRE LIFE ON THE FLOATING ISLAND--FIRST WITH THE BROTHERHOOD OF GUARDIANS, AND THEN ROAMING THE FORBIDDEN ZONE...
...DREAMING OF SOMEDAY CURING MY MOTHER AND FINDING ADVENTURE. I NEVER WANTED TO BE KING.
WHY ON MOBIUS HAVEN'T YOU TOLD DAD?
WOULD HE REALLY UNDERSTAND-- OR LISTEN?

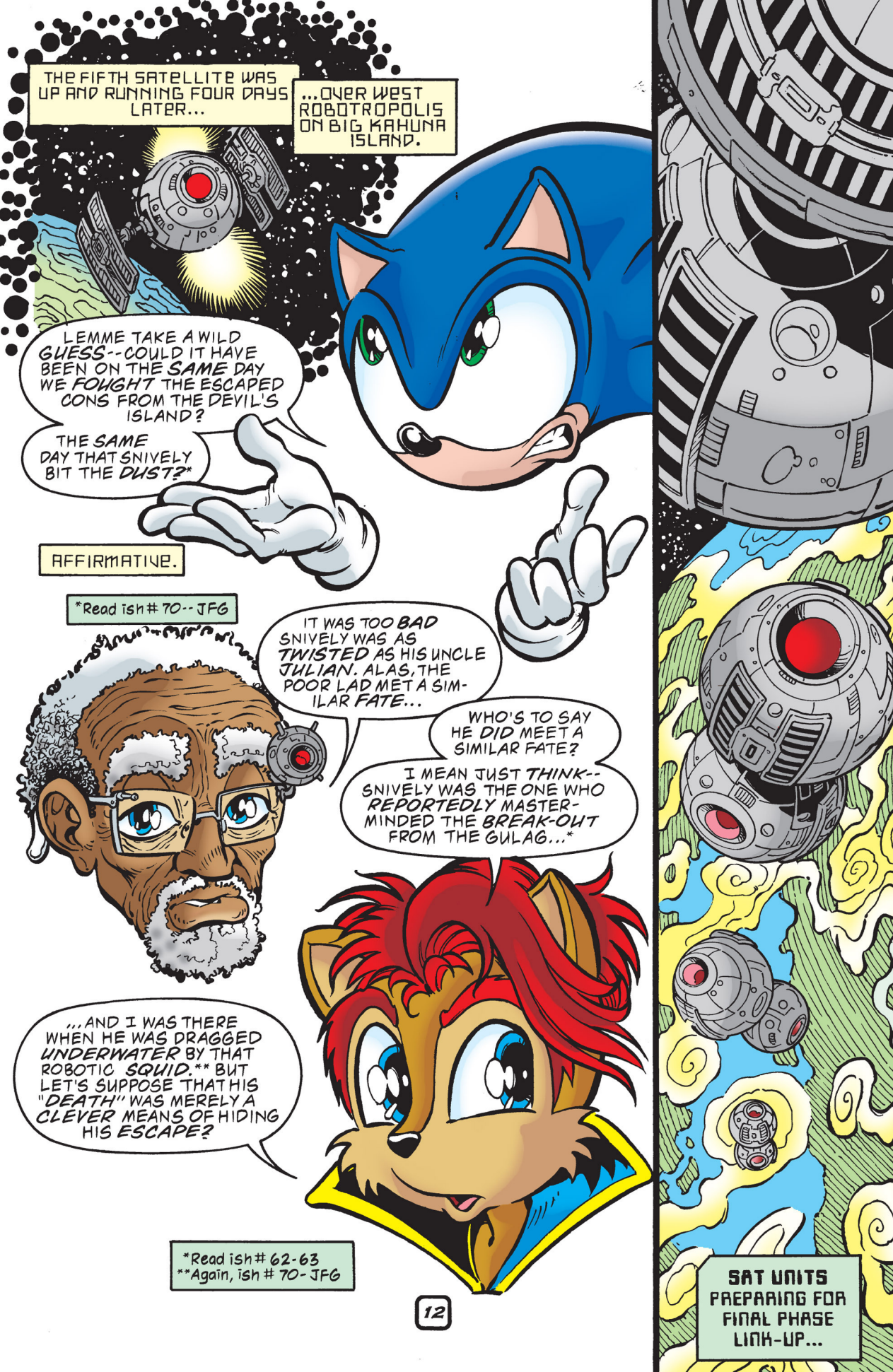

ELSEWHERE...
IMPRESSIVE, AREN'T THEY, SNIVELY?
W-WELL... I-I--
Oh...COME, COME NOW. SEVEN OF THESE SISTER SATELLITES HAVE ALREADY BEEN ACTIVATED --ONLY ONE MORE REMAINS DORMANT...
...AND ALL YOU CAN DO IS STUTTER?
I-IT'S JUST THE SHOCK OF, WELL, I'M SURE YOU KNOW.
I MEAN, WHAT ARE YOU INTENDING TO DO WITH THOSE THINGS, SIR?
WOULDN'T YOU CARE TO BE PRIVY...
...SO YOU COULD IMMEDIATELY SET ABOUT DOING ME IN?
Oh, DON'T BOTHER TRYING TO DENY THE TRUTH, YOU HALF-WIT. I'VE ALREADY FORGIVEN YOU, FLAWED AS YOU ARE.
AS TO WHAT THE SATELLITES ARE ABOUT ...WELL, I'VE ALWAYS FELT THAT ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS OBSERVE.
TEK
I-SAT UNIT BACK ON-LINE--
--AND COMMENCING SYSTEM LOCATION OF TARGET.
TARGET LOCKED-- SYSTEM LOCKED--AND BEGINNING ACTIVATION--
--NOW.

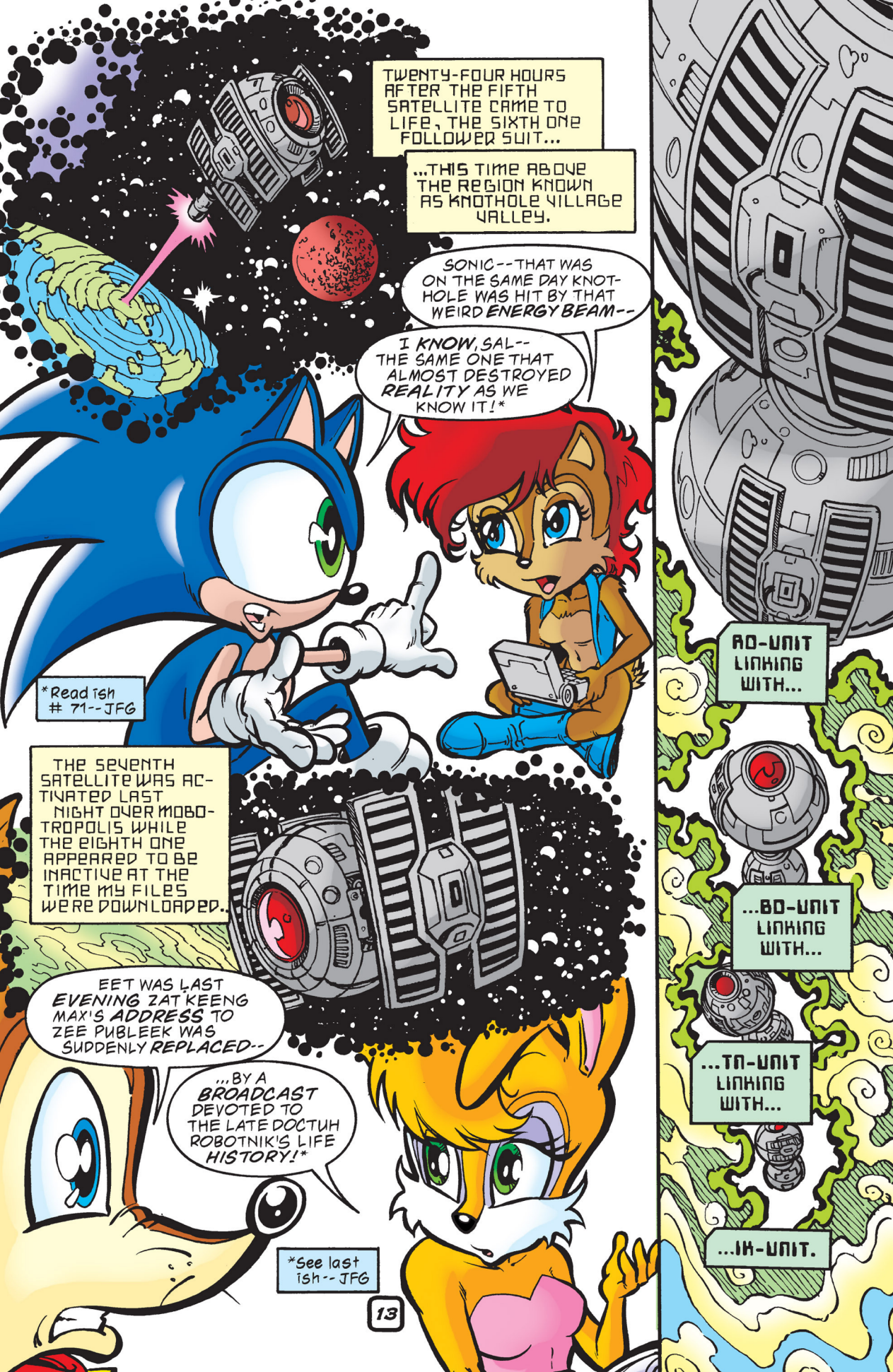

AND BACK IN MOBOTROPOLIS...
WE MADE IT, PRINCESS--SO, LIKE, WHAT'S THE DEAL?
YEAH, WHAT GIVES, SUGAH-SAL?
WELL, EVERYBODY, I'VE BEEN DOWN-LOADING NICOLE'S ASTRONOMICS FILES INTO OUR ROYAL RECORDS...
...AND WHAT I'VE LEARNED IS STARTLING! NICOLE?
DISPLAYING HOLOGRAPHIC SIMULATION OF MOBIUS' UPPER ATMOSPHERE AS IT APPEARED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO
WHAT THE HECK ARE THOSE THINGS IN ORBIT?
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DETERMINE.
A-SAT UNIT LINKING WITH O-SAT UNIT...

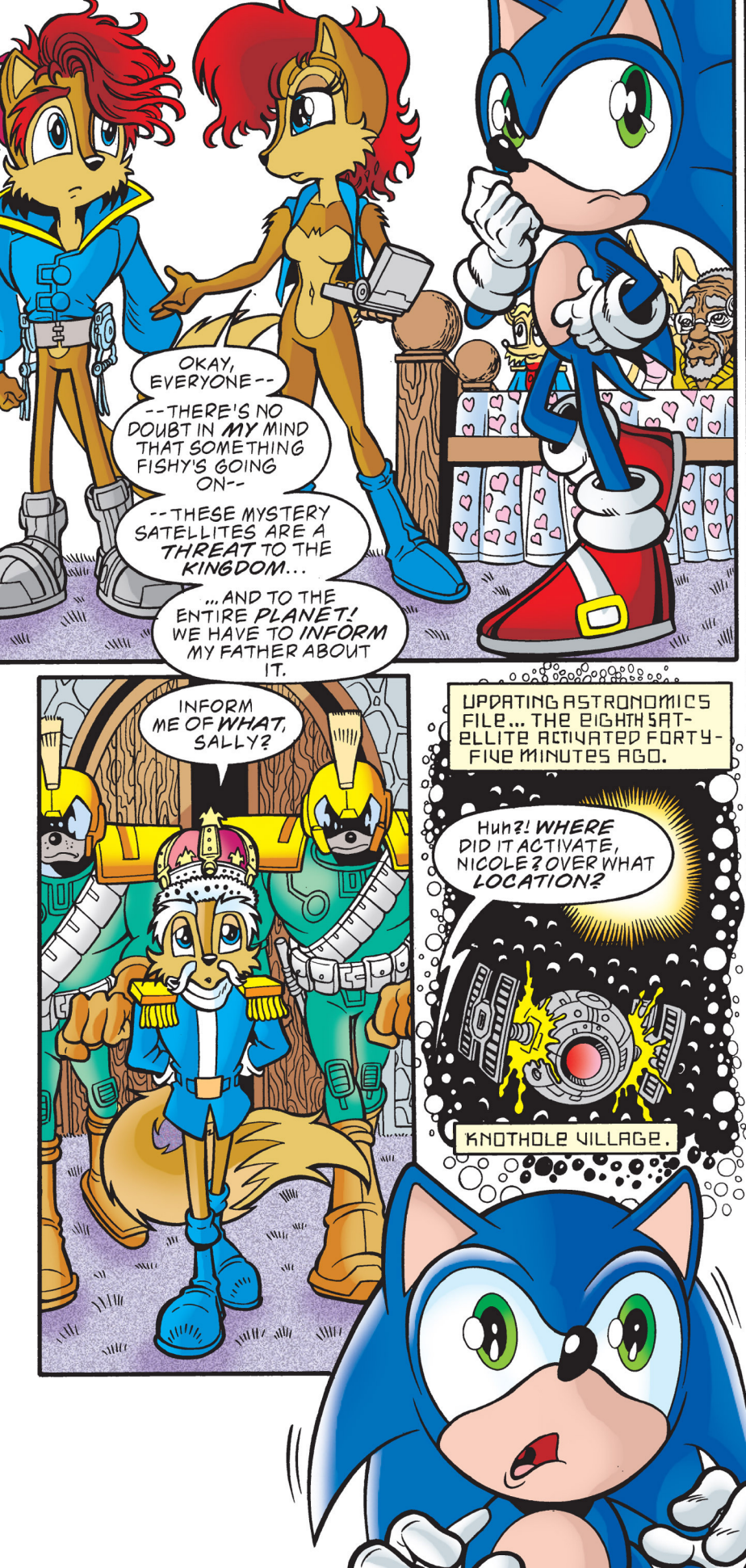

THE SATELLITE SEEN HERE WAS ACTIVATED TWO MONTHS AGO DIRECTLY OVER THE DEVIL'S ISLAND GULAG. WHOEVER WAS BEHIND THIS ACTION REMAINS A MYSTERY.
OF FURTHER NOTE IS THE FACT THAT THE OBJECT'S ACTIVATION DATE COINCIDED WITH THE DAY OF THE JAIL BREAK BY THE GULAG'S INMATES.*
*Read SONIC #62-63.--JFG
GOSH, "AUNT" SALLY--D'YOU THINK THERE'S SOME KIND OF CONNECTION?
THAT REMAIN'S TO BE SEEN, TAILS.
I SAY WE JUICE ON UP THERE AND FIND OUT THE ANSWER FOR OURSELVES!
WE CAN'T DO THAT, SONIC--NOT UNTIL WE'VE HEARD ALL THE DATA.
NOW SIT, PLEASE.
...
B-SAT UNIT LINKING WITH O-SAT UNIT...
9


THE SECOND SATELLITE ACTIVATED ONE WEEK LATER OVER THE REGION KNOWN AS THE SOUTHERN TUNDRA.
SEISMIC ACTIVITY ACROSS THAT CONTINENT INCREASED MARKEDLY CAUSING SEVERAL AVALANCHES.
DON'T I KNOW IT--TAILS, EDDY THE SNOW-BOT AND I WERE BURIED BY ONE OF 'EM WHILE WE WERE TACKLIN' IXIS NAUGUS!*
*Read issue #64.--JFG
EDDY SAVED OUR BUTTS...
WHAT ELSE'VE YA FOUND OUT, SAL?
JUST A MINUTE...
T-SAT UNIT LINKING WITH N-SAT UNIT...
10

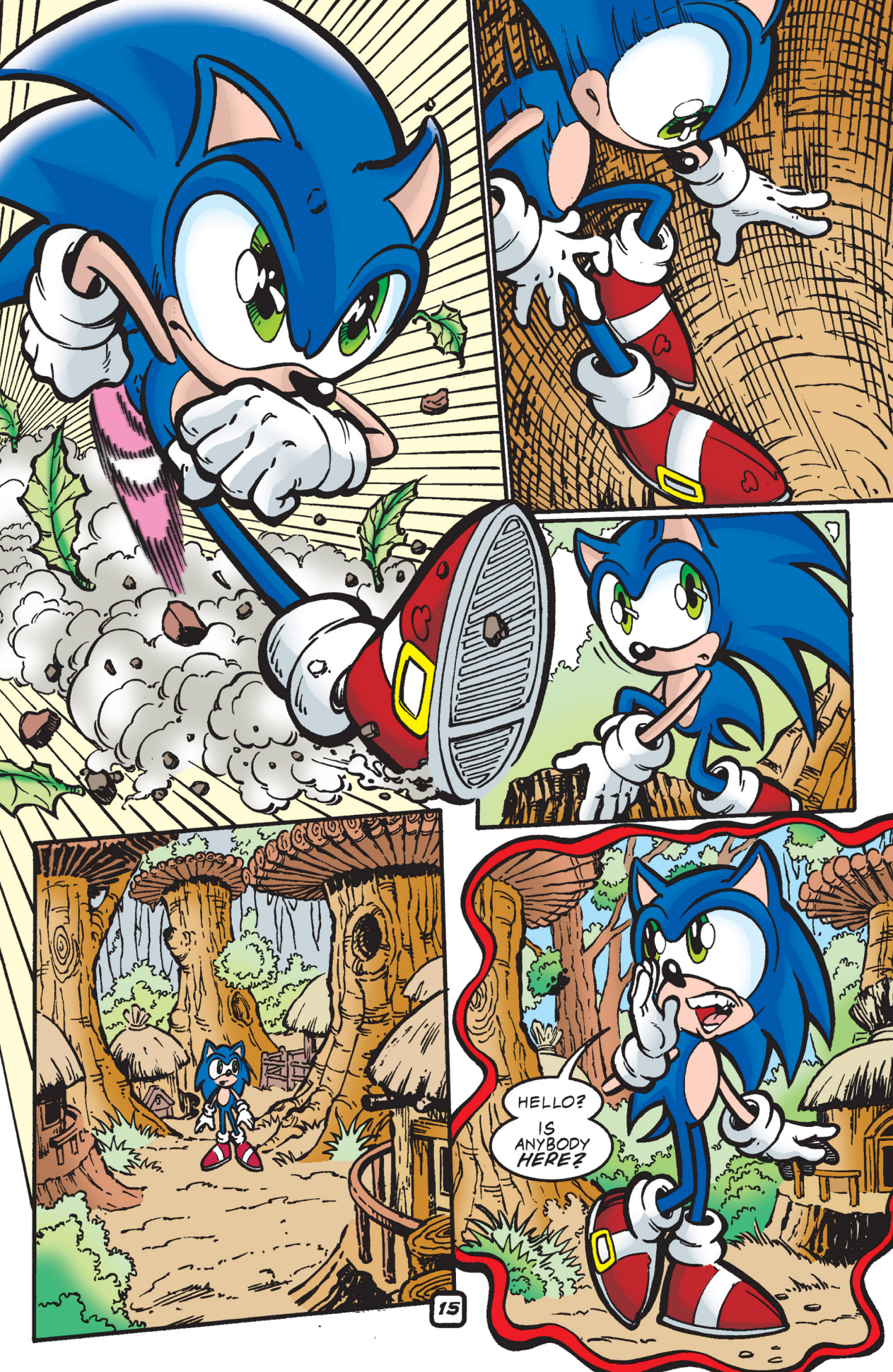

THE NEXT SATELLITE WAS ACTIVATED ABOVE THE GREAT RAINFOREST THREE DAYS AFTER.
WAITAMINNIT! THAT'S EXACTLY WHERE WE WERE ATTACKED BY A SQUAD OF HOSTILE ROBIANS!*
AND THREE DAYS AFTER THE AVALANCHE MEANS IT WAS EXACTLY WHEN WE WERE ATTACKED, L'IL BUDDY!
COULD THE SATELLITE HAVE SOMEHOW BEEN CONTROLLING THEM?
*Read ish #67--JFG
THE VERY NEXT DAY, A FOURTH MYSTERY-SATELLITE THAT HAD ACTIVATED OVER MOBOTROPOLIS APPARENTLY UTILIZED A TRACTOR BEAM...
TO PULL SEVERAL PASSING METEORITES TOWARD THE
I-SAT UNIT LINKING WITH K-SAT UNIT...
*Read ish #68--JFG
JUST IN TIME FOR MY BIRTHDAY...
AND MY RETURN TO THE KINGDOM AFTER FIFTEEN YEARS AWAY!
I-SAT UNIT LINKING WITH K-SAT UNIT...

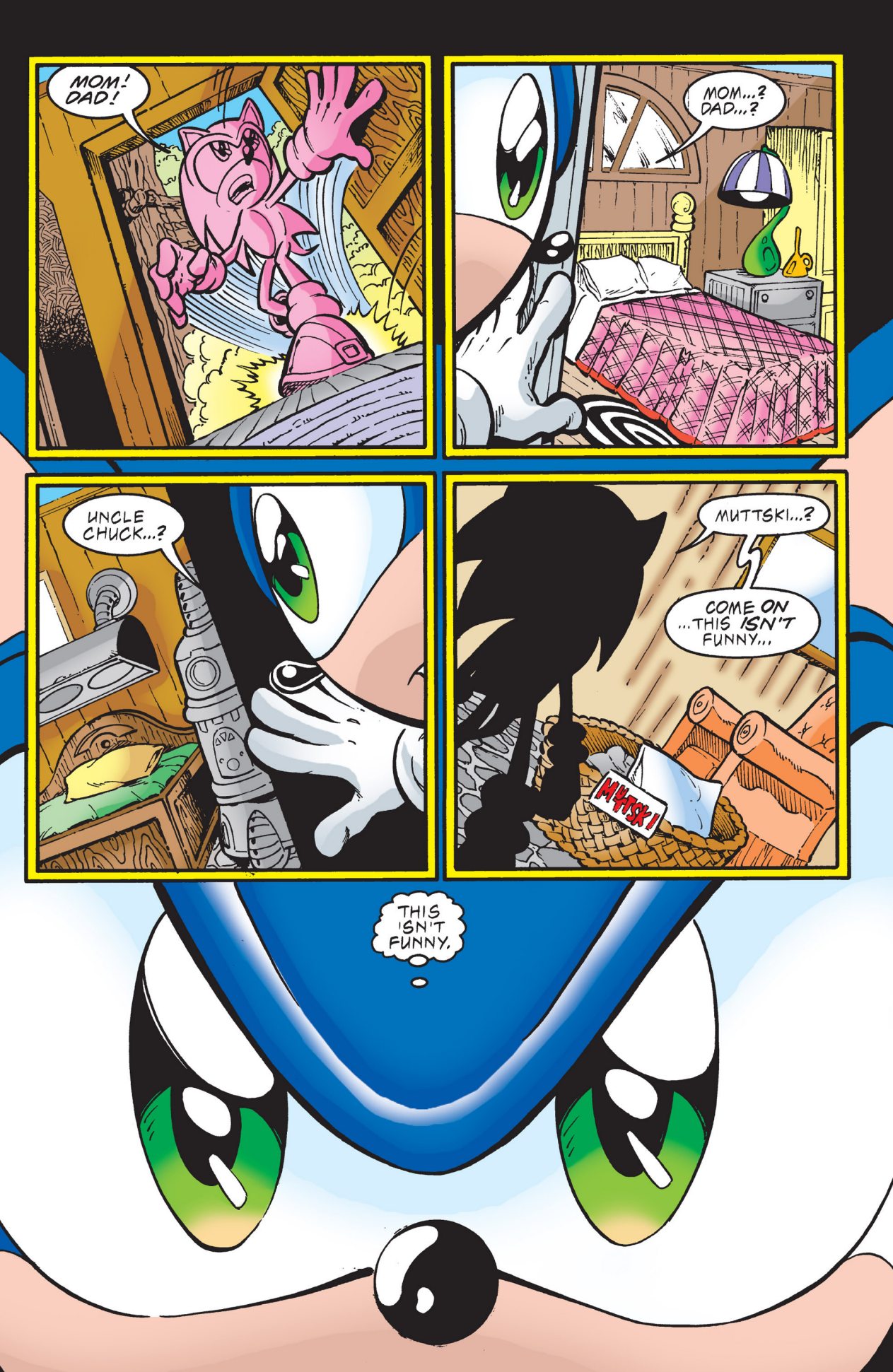

THE FIFTH SATELLITE WAS UP AND RUNNING FOUR DAYS LATER...
...OVER WEST ROBOTROPOLIS ON BIG KAHUNA ISLAND.
LEMME TAKE A WILD GUESS--COULD IT HAVE BEEN ON THE SAME DAY WE FOUGHT THE ESCAPED CONS FROM THE DEVIL'S ISLAND?
THE SAME DAY THAT SNIVELY BIT THE DUST?*
AFFIRMATIVE.
*Read ish # 70-- JFG
IT WAS TOO BAD SNIVELY WAS AS TWISTED AS HIS UNCLE JULIAN. ALAS, THE POOR LAD MET A SIMILAR FATE...
WHO'S TO SAY HE DID MEET A SIMILAR FATE?
I MEAN JUST THINK-- SNIVELY WAS THE ONE WHO REPORTEDLY MASTERMINDED THE BREAK-OUT FROM THE GULAG...*
...AND I WAS THERE WHEN HE WAS DRAGGED UNDERWATER BY THAT ROBOTIC SQUID.** BUT LET'S SUPPOSE THAT HIS "DEATH" WAS MERELY A CLEVER MEANS OF HIDING HIS ESCAPE?
*Read ish # 62-63
**Again, ish # 70- JFG
SAT UNITS PREPARING FOR FINAL PHASE LINK-UP...


TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AFTER THE FIFTH SATELLITE CAME TO LIFE, THE SIXTH ONE FOLLOWED SUIT...
...THIS TIME ABOVE THE REGION KNOWN AS KNOTHOLE VILLAGE VALLEY.
SONIC--THAT WAS ON THE SAME DAY KNOTHOLE WAS HIT BY THAT WEIRD ENERGY BEAM--
I KNOW, SAL--THE SAME ONE THAT ALMOST DESTROYED REALITY AS WE KNOW IT!*
*Read ish # 71--JFG
THE SEVENTH SATELLITE WAS ACTIVATED LAST NIGHT OVER MOBOTROPOLIS WHILE THE EIGHTH ONE APPEARED TO BE INACTIVE AT THE TIME MY FILES WERE DOWNLOADED.
EET WAS LAST EVENING ZAT KEENG MAX'S ADDRESS TO ZEE PUBLEEK WAS SUDDENLY REPLACED--
...BY A BROADCAST DEVOTED TO THE LATE DOCTUH ROBOTNIK'S LIFE HISTORY!*
*See last ish--JFG
AD-UNIT LINKING WITH...
...BD-UNIT LINKING WITH...
...TN-UNIT LINKING WITH...
...IK-UNIT.


OKAY, EVERYONE--
--THERE'S NO DOUBT IN MY MIND THAT SOMETHING FISHY'S GOING ON--
--THESE MYSTERY SATELLITES ARE A THREAT TO THE KINGDOM...
...AND TO THE ENTIRE PLANET! WE HAVE TO INFORM MY FATHER ABOUT IT.
INFORM ME OF WHAT, SALLY?
UPDATING ASTRONOMICS FILE... THE EIGHTH SATELLITE ACTIVATED FORTY-FIVE MINUTES AGO.
Huh?! WHERE DID IT ACTIVATE, NICOLE? OVER WHAT LOCATION?
KNOTHOLE VILLAGE.

ROBOTNIK-ORBITAL PLATFORM IS FUNCTIONAL.


HELLO?
IS ANYBODY HERE?

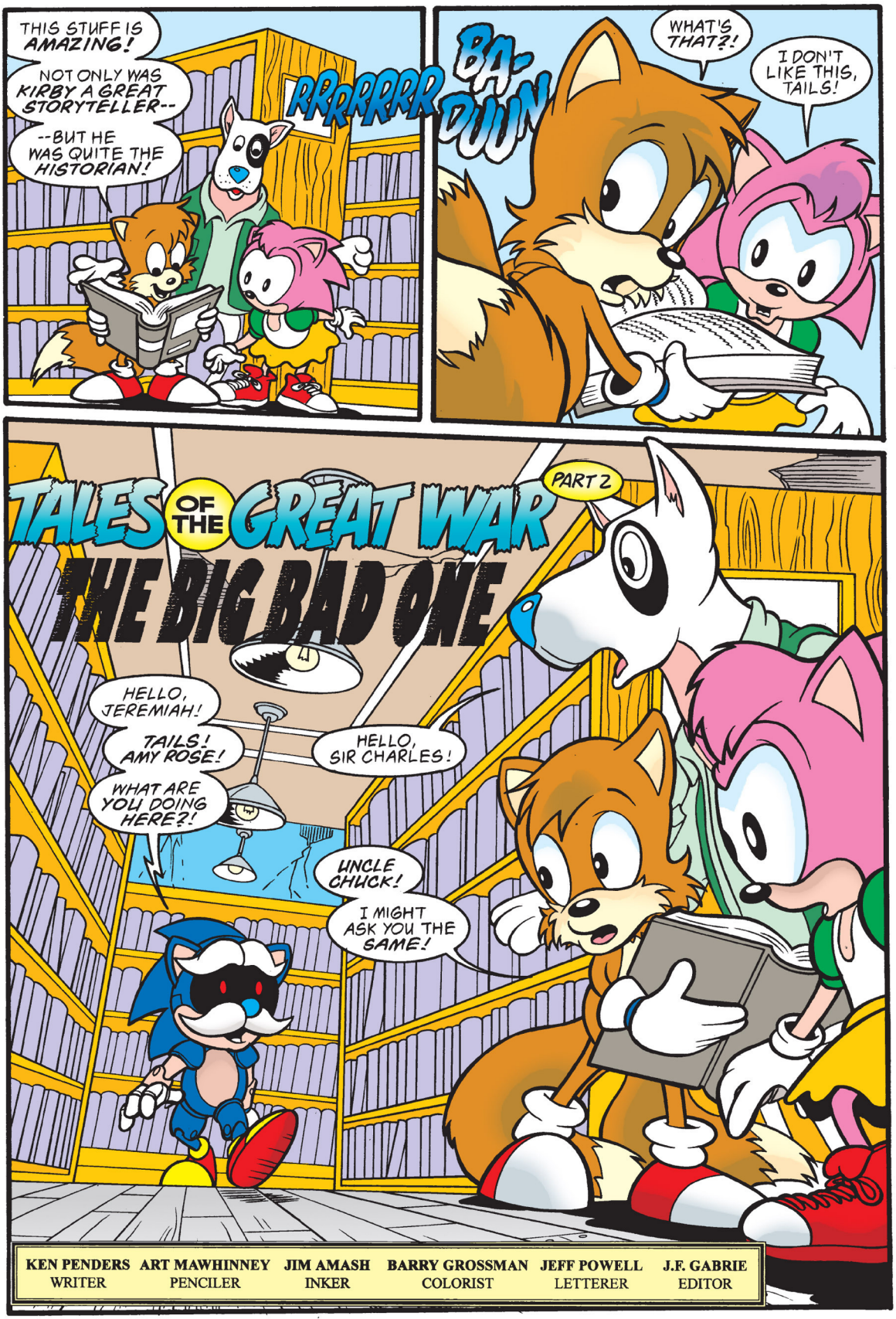

MOM! DAD!
MOM...? DAD...?
UNCLE CHUCK...?
MUTTSKI...?
COME ON ...THIS ISN'T FUNNY...
MUTTSKI
THIS ISN'T FUNNY.

AND ABOARD THE NEWLY-ASSEMBLED ORBITAL PLATFORM...

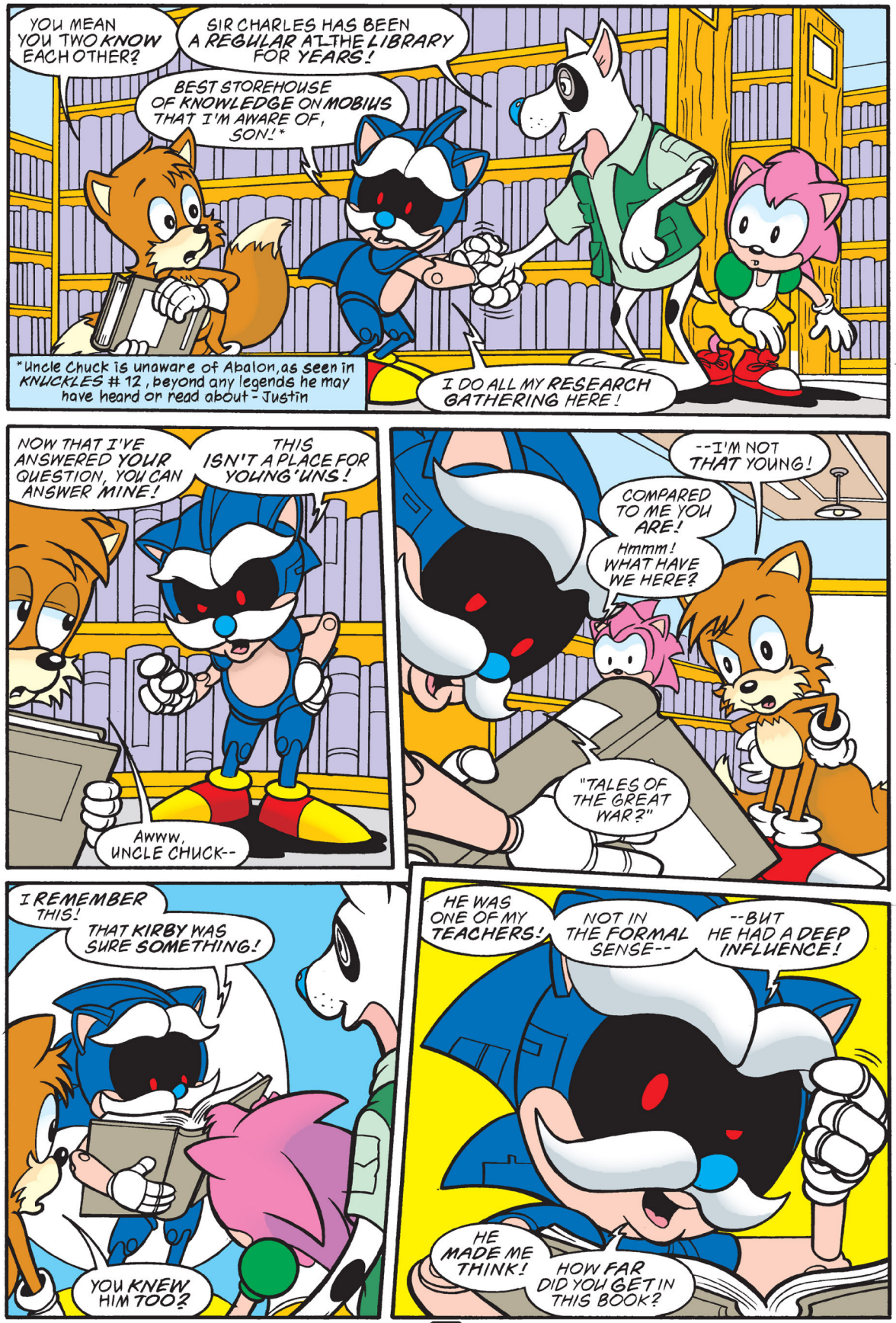
HAHAHAHAHA

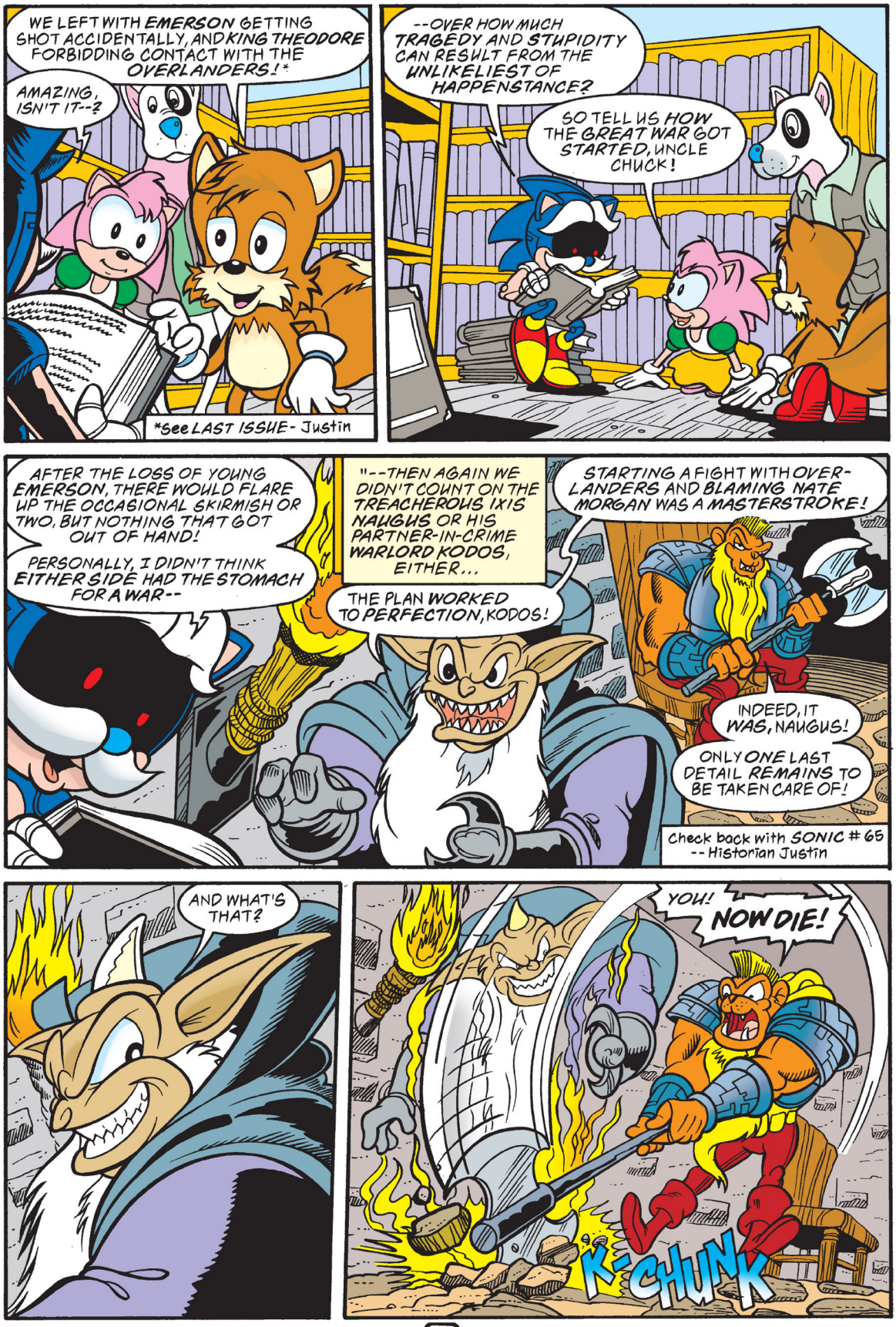
TO BE CONTINUED!

NOTE: The following takes place before this issue's main story.

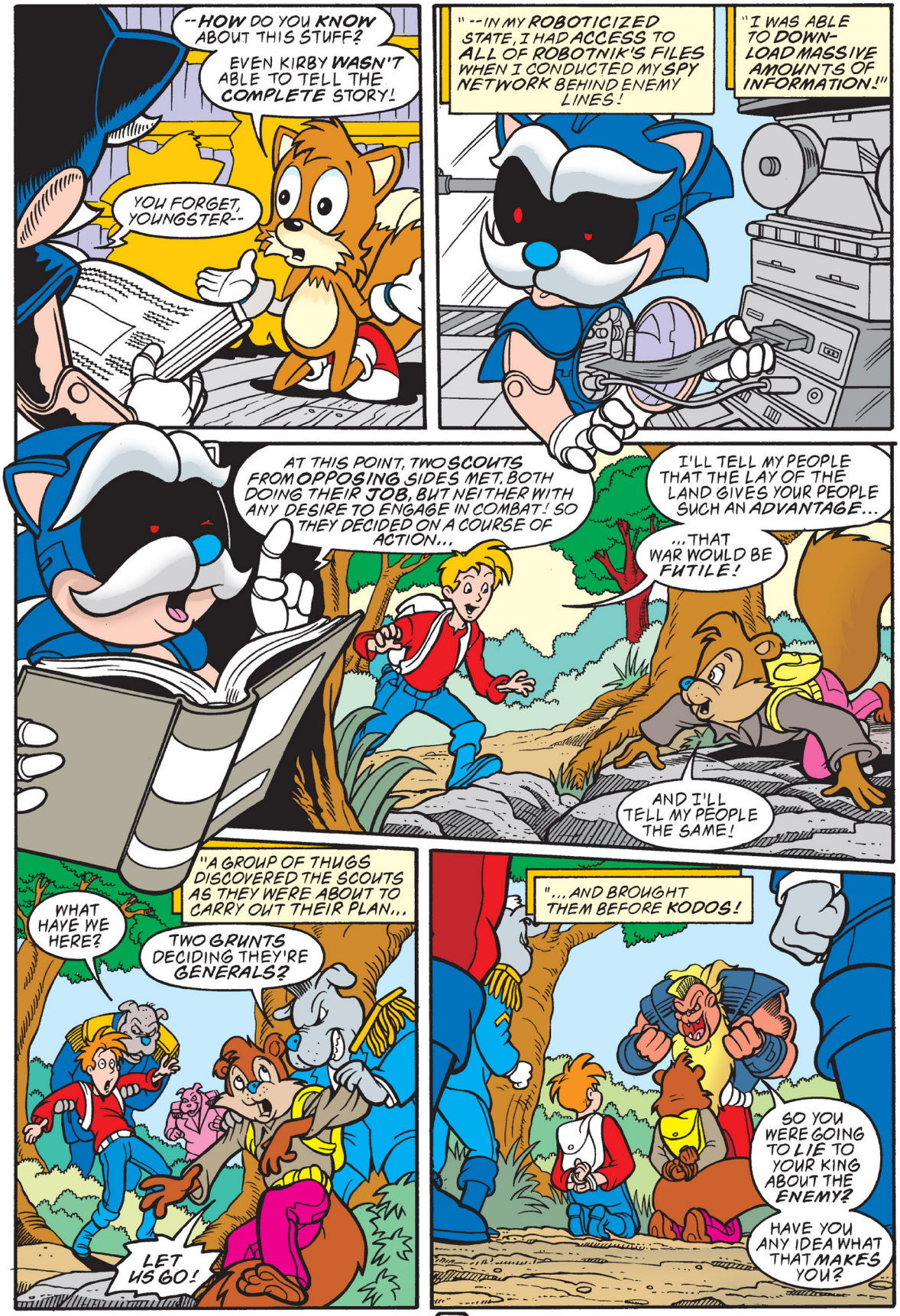


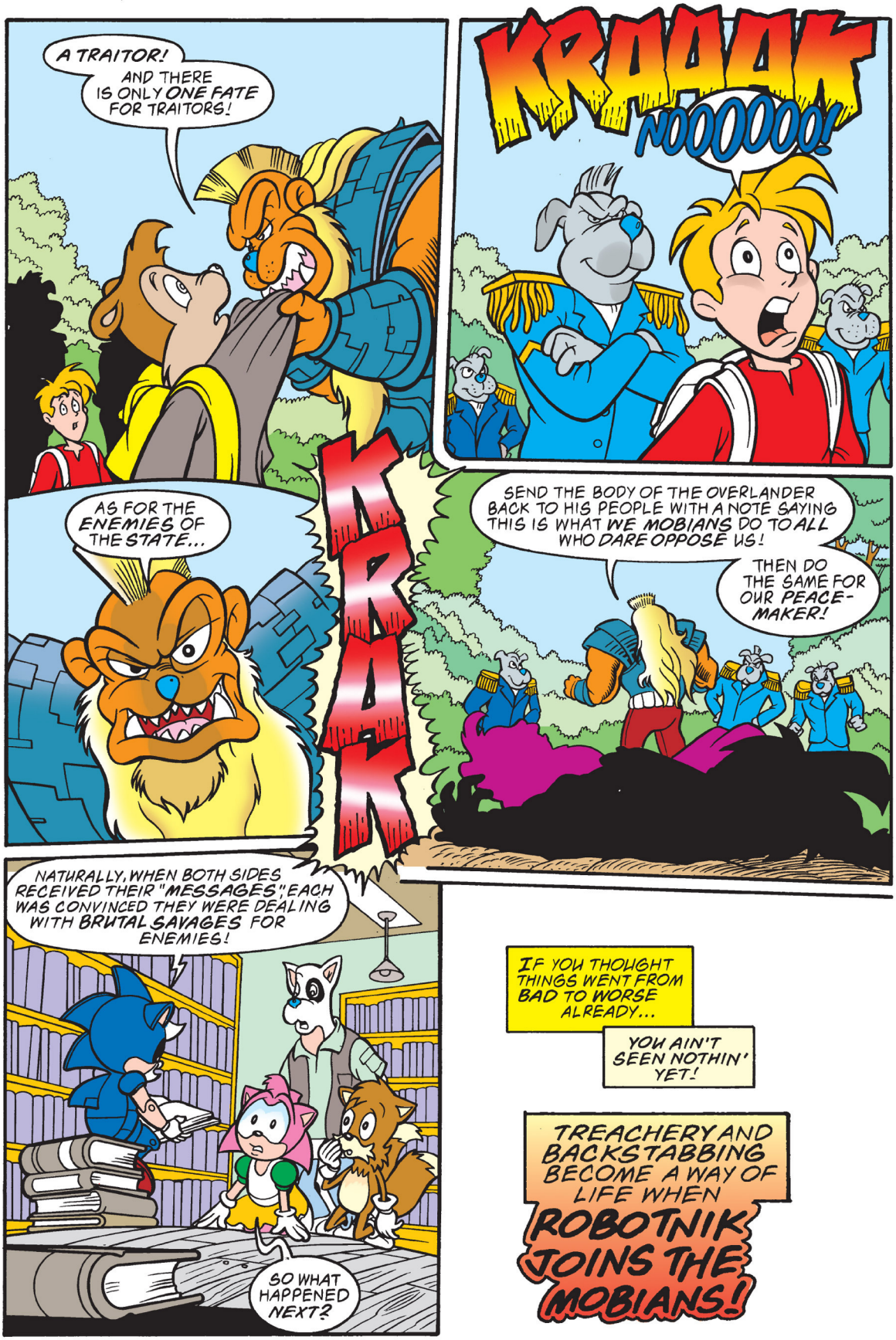
KEN PENDERS	ART MAWHINNEY	JIM AMASH	BARRY GROSSMAN	JEFF POWELL	J.F. GABRIE
WRITER	PENCILER	INKER	COLORIST	LETTERER	EDITOR


YOU MEAN YOU TWO KNOW EACH OTHER?
SIR CHARLES HAS BEEN A REGULAR AT THE LIBRARY FOR YEARS!
BEST STOREHOUSE OF KNOWLEDGE ON MOBIUS THAT I'M AWARE OF, SON!*
*Uncle Chuck is unaware of Abalon, as seen in KNUCKLES # 12, beyond any legends he may have heard or read about - Justin
I DO ALL MY RESEARCH GATHERING HERE!
NOW THAT I'VE ANSWERED YOUR QUESTION, YOU CAN ANSWER MINE!
THIS ISN'T A PLACE FOR YOUNG'UNS!
AWWW, UNCLE CHUCK--
--I'M NOT THAT YOUNG!
COMPARED TO ME YOU ARE!
Hmmm! WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
"TALES OF THE GREAT WAR?"
I REMEMBER THIS!
THAT KIRBY WAS SURE SOMETHING!
YOU KNEW HIM TOO?
HE WAS ONE OF MY TEACHERS!
NOT IN THE FORMAL SENSE--
--BUT HE HAD A DEEP INFLUENCE!
HE MADE ME THINK!
HOW FAR DID YOU GET IN THIS BOOK?


WE LEFT WITH EMERSON GETTING SHOT ACCIDENTALLY, AND KING THEODORE FORBIDDING CONTACT WITH THE OVERLANDERS!*
AMAZING, ISN'T IT--?
*See LAST ISSUE - Justin
--OVER HOW MUCH TRAGEDY AND STUPIDITY CAN RESULT FROM THE UNLIKELIEST OF HAPPENSTANCE?
SO TELL US HOW THE GREAT WAR GOT STARTED, UNCLE CHUCK!
AFTER THE LOSS OF YOUNG EMERSON, THERE WOULD FLARE UP THE OCCASIONAL SKIRMISH OR TWO, BUT NOTHING THAT GOT OUT OF HAND!
PERSONALLY, I DIDN'T THINK EITHER SIDE HAD THE STOMACH FOR A WAR--
"--THEN AGAIN WE DIDN'T COUNT ON THE TREACHEROUS IXIS NAUGUS OR HIS PARTNER-IN-CRIME WARLORD KODOS, EITHER...
THE PLAN WORKED TO PERFECTION, KODOS!
STARTING A FIGHT WITH OVER-LANDERS AND BLAMING NATE MORGAN WAS A MASTERSTROKE!
INDEED, IT WAS, NAUGUS!
ONLY ONE LAST DETAIL REMAINS TO BE TAKEN CARE OF!
Check back with SONIC #65 --Historian Justin
AND WHAT'S THAT?
YOU!
NOW DIE!
K-CHUNK

IT'S A TRICK!
ONE OF NAUGUS' BLASTED ILLUSIONS!
I THOUGHT YOU COULD ONLY BE TRUSTED JUST SO FAR, KODOS--
--AND I WAS RIGHT!
YOU DON'T SCARE ME, NAUGUS!
YOU'VE MERELY POSTPONED THE INEVITABLE!
ONLY IF I LET YOU GET EVEN NEAR ME--
--AND I'M NOT FOOL ENOUGH FOR THAT!
FOR NOW, I'LL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR LITTLE WAR--
--WHILE I SEEK SANCTUARY IN MY ZONE OF SILENCE FOR THE DURATION!
I'LL BE CONTENT WITH WHATEVER'S LEFT AFTERWARDS!
"THOUGH FURIOUS, KODOS DIDN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES HIMSELF, AND HAD HIS TROOPS IMPOUND ALL OF NAUGUS' BELONGINGS..."
"UNCLE CHUCK--


--HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS STUFF?
EVEN KIRBY WASN'T ABLE TO TELL THE COMPLETE STORY!
YOU FORGET, YOUNGSTER--
"--IN MY ROBOTICIZED STATE, I HAD ACCESS TO ALL OF ROBOTNIK'S FILES WHEN I CONDUCTED MY SPY NETWORK BEHIND ENEMY LINES!
"I WAS ABLE TO DOWN-LOAD MASSIVE AMOUNTS OF INFORMATION!"
AT THIS POINT, TWO SCOUTS FROM OPPOSING SIDES MET. BOTH DOING THEIR JOB, BUT NEITHER WITH ANY DESIRE TO ENGAGE IN COMBAT! SO THEY DECIDED ON A COURSE OF ACTION...
I'LL TELL MY PEOPLE THAT THE LAY OF THE LAND GIVES YOUR PEOPLE SUCH AN ADVANTAGE...
...THAT WAR WOULD BE FUTILE!
AND I'LL TELL MY PEOPLE THE SAME!
"A GROUP OF THUGS DISCOVERED THE SCOUTS AS THEY WERE ABOUT TO CARRY OUT THEIR PLAN...
WHAT HAVE WE HERE?
TWO GRUNTS DECIDING THEY'RE GENERALS?
LET US GO!
"...AND BROUGHT THEM BEFORE KODOS!
SO YOU WERE GOING TO LIE TO YOUR KING ABOUT THE ENEMY?
HAVE YOU ANY IDEA WHAT THAT MAKES YOU?


A TRAITOR!
AND THERE IS ONLY ONE FATE FOR TRAITORS!
KRAAK
NOOOOOO!
KRAK
AS FOR THE ENEMIES OF THE STATE...
SEND THE BODY OF THE OVERLANDER BACK TO HIS PEOPLE WITH A NOTE SAYING THIS IS WHAT WE MOBIANS DO TO ALL WHO DARE OPPOSE US!
THEN DO THE SAME FOR OUR PEACE-MAKER!
NATURALLY, WHEN BOTH SIDES RECEIVED THEIR "MESSAGES" EACH WAS CONVINCED THEY WERE DEALING WITH BRUTAL SAVAGES FOR ENEMIES!
SO WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?
IF YOU THOUGHT THINGS WENT FROM BAD TO WORSE ALREADY...
YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN' YET!
TREACHERY AND BACKSTABBING BECOME A WAY OF LIFE WHEN
ROBOTNIK JOINS THE MOBIANS!